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By I. Mattingly.

Corydon, Harrison County, Indiana, Thursday Morning, August 21, 1845.

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THE DESERTED HOMESTEAD.

There is a lonely homestead
In a green and quiet vale,
With its tall trees sighing mournfully,
To every passing gale.
There are many ruins round it
In the sunlight gleaming fair,
But moss-grown is that sylvan cot,
Its walls are gray and bare.
Where once glad voices sounded,
Of children in their mirth,
No whisper breaks the solitude
Of that deserted hearth.
The swallow from its dwelling
To the low eaves hath flown,
And all night long the whippoorwill
Sings by the threshold stone.
No hand above the lattice,
Ties up the trailing vines,
And through the broken casement panes
The moon at midnight shines,
And many a solemn shadow
Seems standing from the gloom,
Like forms of long departed ones,
Peeping that dim old room.
Oh where are they whose voices
Rang out o'er hill and dale?
Gone! and their mournful memories
Seem but an oft-told tale.
Some to the quiet churchyard,
And some beyond the sea,
To meet no more as once they met
Beneath that old roof-tree.
Fame and ambition lured them
From that green vale to roam,
But as their dazzling dreams depart
Regretful memories come,
Of the valley and the homestead
Of their childhood pure and free,
Till each worn weary spirit yearns,
That home one more to see.
Oh! blest are they who linger
Mid old familiar things,
Where every object round the hearth
Its hallowed influence brings.
Though won are wealth and honors,
Though reached fame's lofty dome,
There are no joys like those that spring
Within our childhood's home.

FAREWELL.

BY HENRI HEBER.

When eyes are beaming
What never tongue might tell!
When tears are streaming
From their crystal cell,
When hands are linked that dread to part,
And heart is met by throbbing heart,
Oh! bitter, bitter is the smart
Of them that bid farewell!
When hope is chidden,
That fain of bliss would tell
And love forbidden
In the breast to dwell:
When fettered by a viewless chain,
We turn, and gaze, and turn again,
Oh! death were mercy to the pain
Of them that bid farewell!

A COTTAGE SCENE.

BY MRS. SIGORNEY.

I saw a cradle at a cottage door
Where the fair mother, with her cheerful
wheel,
Carrolled so sweet a song, that the young
Which, timid, near the threshold sought
for food.
Panned on his lifted foot, and raised his
As if to listen. The rejoicing bees
Nestled in thorns amid the woodbine cups
That o'er the lattice clustered. A clear
stream
Came leaping from its sylvan height, and
Music upon the pebbles; and the winds,
Which gently 'mid the vernal branches
played,
Their idle frocks, brought showering bliss
Surfacing earth with sweetness. Sad I
came
From weary commerce with the world,
But when I felt upon my withered cheek
My mother Nature's breath, and heard the
tramp
Of those gay insects at their honey'd toil,
Shining like winged jewelry, and drank
The healthful colour of the flow'ring trees
And bright-eyed violets—but, most of all,
When I beheld mild slumbering innocence,
And on that young maternal brow the
smile
Of those affections which do purify
And renovate the soul—I turned me back
In gladness, and with added strength, to run
My weary race, lifting a thankful prayer
To him who showed me some bright trail
of heaven
Here on earth, that I might enter walk,
And former combat sin, and later
From earth to heaven.

CALIFORNIA.

The Imports—Crops—Manufactures—
Population—Agriculture.

When a day or two since gave a brief
sketch of California, as gathered from sev-
eral chapters of the 'Exploring Expedition,'
by Capt. Wilkes. The subject is full of
interest, and we therefore proceed to cul-
l out a few more facts and statements. The
visit, it should be remembered, was made
in 1841. Capt. W. says that the greater
part of the wealth of the people of Califor-
nia consists of live stock. The exportations,
on the average of years, are about
one hundred and fifty thousand hules, and
two hundred thousand arrobas of tallow.
The standard price for the former is two
dollars, while the latter is worth one dollar
and fifty cents the arroba. A few beaver-
skins are obtained, which do not exceed
two thousand, and are valued at two dol-
lars apiece. From four to five hundred
sea otter skins are brought in by the A-
merican hunters, which are valued at thirty
dollars each.

Wheat has been exported to the Rus-
sian posts, to the amount of twelve thou-
sand bushels, of which the average price
is about fifty cents a bushel. Of late,
however, it has risen to two dollars and
fifty cents, in consequence of the great
drought that has prevailed. Among the
exports may be also enumerated about
three thousand elk and deer skins, which
are valued at from fifty cents to a dollar
each. The whole merchantable products
may be estimated less than a million of
dollars. The yield of wheat is remark-
able, and in some places, where the land
is well situated, very large returns are
received. Mr. Spears, of Yerba Buena, in-
formed Capt. W. that he had delivered to
an active American farmer thirty bushels
of wheat for seed, at a time when it was
difficult to procure it, under an agreement
that he should have the refusal of the crop
at the market price. In the July follow-
ing, he delivered him three thousand bush-
els, and the other day he found that the
farmer had sold his hundred bushels
for himself, without estimating
the loss from the drought and treading
out with horses, would give one hundred
and twenty for one. This is not consid-
ered a fair criterion of average, as the land
was remarkable for its richness and was
well attended to; but Mr. Spears and sev-
eral others assured him that the average
would be as high as eighty bushels yield-
ed for one planter.

Indian corn yields well, as also potatoes,
beans and peas. The cultivation of veg-
etables is increasing rapidly, and supplies
in these latter articles may be had in abun-
dant and of the finest quality. The
country appears to be well adapted to
grapes. Those which have been tried at
the missions yield most abundantly; and
about two hundred casks, each of eighteen
gallons, of brandy, and the same quantity
of wine, was made. The cultivation of
the grape increases yearly, but is not suf-
ficient for the supply of the country, as
large quantities of foreign wines and li-
quors are imported, which pay an enormous
duty.

The salmon fishery, if attended to,
would, in the opinion of Capt. Wilkes, be
a source of considerable profit. But the
people are said to be so indolent, and to
live with as little trouble as possible. At
the missions, coarse articles and manufac-
tures, such as blankets and wearing ap-
parel for the Indians. Soap and leather are
also manufactured. There are in Califor-
nia, only two or three water mills for grind-
ing flour, and these are owned by foreig-
ners. The mills in general use in the
country, are composed of no more than
two burnt stones. To the upper stone a
cross beam is secured, to which axle power
is applied. In most of the estancias there
is to be found a mill in an apartment
adjoining the kitchen, if not in it. The
whole is as primitive as well can be, al-
though the captain has no doubt it answers
all the wants of this rude and indolent peo-
ple.

From all accounts, besides cattle, the
country is well adapted to the raising of
sheep which simply require watching, as
they can find plenty of nutritious food the
whole year round; but there has been no
attention paid to this sort of stock, and the
wool is of very ordinary quality. The
mutton is thought to be of very fine flavor.
The usual price for a sheep is from one
dollar and fifty cents to two dollars, when
a choice is made for killing. Hogs are
raised in some parts, and might be fed to
great advantage on the acorns which are
abundant on the hills where the land is not
susceptible of cultivation. Pork may be
packed at three dollars the hundred weight.
What adds to the facility of doing this busi-
ness, is the fact that large quantities of
salt collect in the ponds in the dry season,
which may be obtained for the expense of
carting it.

The number of Indians is variously es-
timated at from 12,000 to 15,000, while
others place them as low as 8,000 or 9,000.
The principal part of these are the tribes
on the Sacramento. The Whites, Capt.
W. estimates at about 3000, with about
2000 more of mixed blood. The whole
population of Upper California at the date
of the visit, is given at about 15,000 souls.
The health and robustness of the white in-
habitants seem remarkable, and must be

attributed to the fine climate, as well as to
their simple diet. This consists of beef
roasted upon the coals, a few vegetables,
and the tortilla, which is a thin cake, made
of corn meal, and baked upon a sheet of
iron. Throughout the country, both with
the rich and poor, this is the general fare;
but some few luxuries have been lately
introduced, among which are rice and tea.
The latter is used so sparingly, that the
discoloration of the water is scarcely per-
ceptible.

At the missions they live after the Span-
ish fashion. The children are, for the
most part, left to take care of themselves,
and run about naked and dirty. They are
generally robust, and their relative num-
ber seems to be very great; thus, it is by
no means uncommon to see families of
fourteen or fifteen children; and an in-
stance was mentioned of a woman near
Yerba Buena, who had had twenty-six.—
A large number die from accidental falls
from horses, with which from their ear-
liest childhood they are accustomed to be
engaged. They early become expert and
fearless riders, and this skill is not con-
fined altogether to the male sex; the wo-
men are almost equally expert. Families
with numerous members are seldom met
with who have not had to mourn the loss
of several of their number from casualties
of this sort.

Although the Californians are compar-
atively few in number, yet they have a dis-
tinctive character. Descended from the
old Spaniards, they are unfortunately found
to have all their vices, without a proper
share of their virtues; they are exceedingly
fond of gambling, which is equally in
favor with the male and female portion of
the community. Their games consist in
cards, dice, &c.

Their amusements are cock-fighting,
bull and bear baiting, and dancing; these
are the predominant occupations of their
lives, always accompanied with excessive
drinking. Parties of amusement, to which
the surrounding population is invited, are
frequent; these generally last for three
days, and rarely break up without some
quarrel.

Weddings are particularly liable to
these disorders, and at each of the three
last that took place at and in the vicinity
of Yerba Buena, previous to the visit there,
a life was lost by the coquille. This wea-
pon is always worn, and is promptly re-
sorted to in all their quarrels.

The female portion of the community
are ignorant, degraded, and the slaves of
their husbands. They are very fond of
dress, and will make any sacrifice, even
their own honor, to gratify it. The men
have no trades, and depend for every
thing upon the Indians at the missions,
some of whom are quite ingenious, both
as carpenters and blacksmiths. The
whites are so indolent, and without have so
much pride, as to make them look upon all
manual labor as degrading; in truth, they
regard all those who work as beneath them;
they in consequence, can never be induc-
ed to labor. An anecdote was related to
me of one who had been known to dis-
pense with his dinner, although the food
was but a few yards off, because the In-
dians were not at hand to bring it to him.
Philadelphia Inquirer.

GOOD BREEDING.

The following hints are offered by some
critic, who has been a close observer of
men and manners. He thinks it an im-
portant subject, and asks the attention of
all the careless to the list of transgressions.

"Loud and harsh speaking, making
noises in eating or drinking, leaning aw-
wardly while sitting, rattling knives and
forks when at table, starting up suddenly
and rushing unceremoniously out of a
room, tossing anything away with indif-
ference or contempt, receiving any thing
without thanking the giver, standing in the
way of any one when there is little room
to pass, [a grievous practice in this city,]
stepping before any one who is looking at
any object particularly, pushing or jost-
ling any one without apologizing, taking
possession of a seat that belongs to another,
intruding opinions when they are not
sought or where they give offence, leaving
acquaintances in the street or in a private
circle without bidding them good-bye or
courteously saluting them, slapping any
one familiarly on the shoulder, interrupt-
ing a person in conversation, telling long,
tedious or humdrum stories, whispering in
company, making remarks on the dress of
those about you, or upon things in a room
where you are, flatly contradicting a per-
son, using slang phrases, [a very common
habit,] interlarding our speech with fore-
ign phrases, [well but off in the new
comedy of Fashion,] repeating the words
says he and says she, you know, and you
understand, helping yourself first at the
table, using a fork as a tooth-pick, scratching
the head, putting the fingers in the ears,
cleaning or prying the nails before com-
pany, mentioning the price of any thing
when it is offered to a guest, asking ques-
tions which give pain, and neglecting to
answer letters."

"What are you writing such a thunder-
ing big hand for, fat?" "Why, you see,
my grandmother's deaf, and I'm a woman
of a loud letter to her."

THE COST OF A LADY'S FAN.—The fol-
lowing from the N. Y. Evening Mirror is
a fair illustration and commentary of the
too prevalent extravagance and folly among
our countrywomen.

A Lyons manufacturer once informed
us that the Americans were the most ex-
travagant people in the world. "For,"
said he, "my most costly fabrics are in-
variably secured for the American market
and the agents for American houses are
more liberal in their purchases than any
other class of buyers." In confirmation
of this remark, you have merely to stroll
any fine day, through one of our crowded
through fairs, and note the universal gen-
tleness of appearance of the passing throng.
Every one is well dressed, and you find
yourself in a wilderness of satins, silks,
laces, and broadcloths. A stranger is at
once impressed with this fact, and we
have heard many an intelligent foreigner
remark how striking was the contrast be-
tween the old and the new world, in the
general appearance of the masses.

But this was not always the case. The
march of refinement has been progressive—
else

—where the plain mob cap? the rus-
set gown?

The puritanic coat; the close cropt crown,
of our pilgrim fathers? The cost of an
outfit for a fashionable lady of the present
day would have been more than sufficient
for a dozen fashionable ladies in the days
of our great grandmothers; and, as the
march is still onward, heaven only knows
how much it will cost for the same outfit
an hundred years hence!

We were let into a secret, a few even-
ings since, respecting the cost of a lady's
fan. We had loitered in at one of our
pleasant stopping places, Woodworth's
magnificent establishment in Broadway—a
delightful spot, which we love to visit on
account of the many pleasing reminiscen-
ces we experience when grasping the hand
of a son of one whose memory we cherish
with the warmest feelings of affection for
the man, and veneration for the poet.—
We allude to the author of the "Old Oak-
en Bucket," our early patron, and our
dearest friend. We had loitered in, and
were looking about and losing ourselves
among the thousand novelties and curiosi-
ties that are displayed for sale in this im-
mense bazaar, when our attention was
drawn to the beauty of a fan, which a
"marriageable looking young gentleman
present had selected from the assortment
before him.

It was certainly an elegant toy, and he
bought it. The price was seventy-five dol-
lars. Before we left the store our curiosi-
ties prompted us to look over the rich col-
lection of fans from which this selection
had been made, and we had never conceived
anything more exquisitely beautiful than
one that was shown us at a hundred dollars!
We were lost in amazement, and took our
departure, making, in our own mind, an es-
timate—based upon the cost of the fan—
which, one of these days, we may give to
the reader.

PATRICK HENRY.—Some very interest-
ing reminiscences of this great orator are
given in Howe's Historical collections of
Virginia, a work recently published and
likely to be of a good deal of interest not
only to the people of the Old Dominion,
but to citizens of other States. In this
work occurs this passage, stating Henry's
opinion on an important point of our Con-
stitution:

"He was opposed to the adoption of the
Federal constitution, because he thought it
gave too much power to the general gov-
ernment; and in conversation with the
father of a late venerable senator from
Prince Edward, he remarked with empha-
sis—'The President of the United States
will always come in at the head of a party.
He will be supported in all his acts by a
party. You do not now think much of
the patronage of the President; but the
day is coming when it will be tremendous,
and from his power the country may soon
be or later fall.'"

The following anecdote is given con-
cerning one of his most important legal
arguments:

"In the British debt cause, of which
Wirt gives a full account, Mr. Henry made
great preparation. He shut himself in
his office for three days, during which time
he did not see his family; his food being
brought by a servant through the office
door. The Countess of Huntingdon then
in this country, was among the auditors,
and remarked after hearing the arguments
of the several speakers, 'that if every one
of them had spoken in Westminster Hall,
they would have been honored with a
peerage. This case, says Wirt, was dis-
cussed with so much learning, argument
and eloquence as to have placed the bar
of Virginia, in the estimation of the fed-
eral judges, [if the reports of the day may
be credited,] above all others in the U-
nited States. Mr. Henry on this occasion
had a diamond ring on his finger, and
while he was speaking, the Countess ex-
claimed to the judge Fredell—who had
never before heard him—'The diamond is
blazing!'—'Gracious God!' exclaimed
he, 'he is an orator indeed.' In this case
he injured his voice so that he never re-
covered its original power."—N. Y. Cong-
ress & England.

WOMAN'S VOICE.

How consoling to the mind oppressed by
heavy sorrow, is the voice of an amiable
woman. Like sacred music, it imparts to
the soul a feeling of celestial serenity,
and as a gentle zephyr refreshes the
winded senses with its soft and melodious
tones. Riches may avail much in the hour
of affliction; the friendship of man may
alleviate for a time the bitterness of woe,
but the angel voice of woman is capable
of producing a lasting effect on the heart,
and communicates a sensation of delicious
composure which the mind had never be-
fore experienced, even in the moments of
its highest facility.

A LAWYER'S STORY.—Tom strikes Dick
over the shoulders with a rattan as big as
your little finger. A lawyer would tell
you the story something in this way!—
"And that; whereas, the said Thomas, in
the year and day aforesaid, in and upon
the body of the said Richard, in the peace
of God and the State then and there being,
did make a most violent assault, and inflict-
ed a great many and divers blows, kicks,
thumps, bumps, contusions, gashes, wounds,
bruises, damages and injuries, in and upon
the head, neck, breast, stomach, hips,
knees, shins and heels of the said Richard,
with divers sticks, staves, canes, poles,
clubs, logs of wood, stones, guns, dirks,
swords, daggers, pistols, cutlasses, bludge-
ons, blunderbusses and boarding pikes,
then and there held in the hands, fists,
claws and clutches of him, the said Thom-
as."

CURIOUS ORIGIN OF A WAR.—When
Louis the VII., to obey the injunction of
his Bishop, cropped his hair and shaved
his beard, Eleanor his consort found him
with this unusual appearance very ridi-
culous. She revenged herself as she
thought proper; the poor shaved king ob-
tained a divorce. Eleanor then married
the Count of Anjou, afterwards Henry II.
She had for her marriage dowry, the rich
provinces of Poitou and Guienne; and
this was the origin of those wars which
for about three hundred years ravaged
France, and cost the French, three millions
of men—all of which probably had never
occurred, had Louis not been so rash as to
crop his hair and shaved his beard, by
which he became so extremely odious in
the eyes of Queen Eleanor.

PAYING LIKE A SINNER.—Several years
ago, in North Carolina, where it is not
customary for the tavern keepers to charge
the ministers anything for lodging and re-
freshments, a preacher presuming stopped
at a tavern one evening, made himself
comfortable during the night; and in the
morning entered the stage without offering
pay for his accommodations. The land-
lord soon came running up to the stage,
and said 'there was some one in who had
not settled their bill'—the passengers all
said they had, but the preacher, who said
he had understood he never charged min-
isters anything. 'What, you a preacher
of the gospel, a man of God,' cried the
inn-keeper, 'you came to my house last
night, you sat down at the table without
asking a blessing, I lit you up to your
room and you went to bed without a prayer
to your Maker, (for I stand there until you
had undressed,) you rose and washed with-
out prayers, ate your breakfast without
saying grace, and as you came to my
house like a sinner, ate and drank like a
sinner, you have got to pay like a sinner.'

TOBACCO STATISTICS.—In the year 1843,
eight millions one thousand four hundred
and forty-nine pounds one shilling and 4
pence were spent by the people of Great
Britain and Ireland in tobacco! A toler-
ably round sum to end in smoke. If the
weed had been worked into pig tail, rather
more than half an inch thick, it would
have formed a line of 99,470 miles, long
enough to go nearly five times round the
world!

COMING ACROSS.—The steamer Wing
and Wing arrived here last evening with
101 German emigrants, who landed at Bal-
timore, and from thence they came to St.
Louis; in this number there are 51 children
under eleven years of age—two were born
on the boat; one woman has thirteen chil-
dren, and the oldest is but eleven years of
age. That beats the natives.—St. Louis
New Era, July 23.

YOUTH.—Youth is a flowing stream on
whose current the shadow may rest but
not remain; sunshine is natural to its glad
waters, and the flower will spring upon its
banks, despite of the wintry storm and
chilling wind. A year in youth is like a
month in spring; it is wonderful to observe
the rapid alteration that is brought by the
general and vivifying influence of these
few fleeting days; the germ expands into a
leaf and the bud into a flower almost before
we have marked the change.

PURITY OF HEART.—Is of all virtues, the
most elevated. A Greek maid being asked
what fortune she would bring her hus-
band, she answered—'I will bring him
what is more valuable than any treasure;
a heart unspotted and void without a
stain, which is all that is needed to me
from my parents'

INDIANAPOLIS